

Subject: City Council Decriminalizing Sidewalk Vending<MRumsey@ccala.org>
From: "John Howland" <jhowland@ccala.org>
Date: 02/15/2017 01:02 PM
To: "Carol Schatz" <cschatz@downtownla.com>, "'Blair Besten'" <@>

Hi Everyone-

The City Council voted a little while ago 13-0 to approve the ordinances to end misdemeanor penalties for unpermitted sidewalk vending and to end misdemeanors for failure to pay ACE citations. CM Ryu added an amendment asking the City Attorney to report back in 15 days on what that office is doing to end current / on-going vendor prosecutions, which was approved.

Since the vote was 13-0, no second vote is needed. The Council is sending the matter "forthwith" (with all due haste) to the Mayor for his signature.

The first ordinance has an urgency clause, so it will take effect the day after it's published. No date given but probably mid-to-late next week. The other will be effective 30 days after publication.

There were approx. one dozen supporters there. 5 vendors and Mike Dennis from ELACC spoke in favor of the ordinances (Dennis said it's still a misdemeanor under section 63.00 to bend in parks and that must be ended). No one spoke against the ordinances. And no action on Dennis' request was taken.

CM Ryu asked a number of questions to the City Attorney about amnesty for already convicted vendors. These convictions can't be overturned by the City (but there is a process to have them expunged from the records at the state level).

Several other CMs spoke about the need to end criminal penalties given the recent ICE raids.

CMs Blumenfield asked the City Atty about how the City can enforce the vending laws without an ACE ticket "just being the cost of doing business" and Blumenfield asked if the City can still confiscate vendor property. City Atty staff said that ACE ticket costs will escalate per citation (though they need to report back on whether multiple tickets can be given in one day). And confiscation will not be allowed at this point, until new rules and procedures are adopted by the City. Enforcement protocols will be recommended back to the Council in the coming months by the City Attorney and various agencies and offices.

CM Krekorian asked if civil liens and, potentially, civil contempt (vs. criminal contempt) can be levied on vendors who don't pay fines. The City Attorney will include that in their enforcement report discussions.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

John



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City Council Decriminalizing Sidewalk Vending...

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